

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes _____
no ☒

Property Name: 17801 New Hampshire Avenue Inventory Number: M: 28-7-5
Address: 17801 New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) Historic district: yes ☒ no
City: Ashton Zip Code: 20861 County: Montgomery
USGS Quadrangle(s): Sandy Spring
Property Owner: Ashton Meeting LLC Tax Account ID Number: 08-00705553
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 509 Tax Map Number: JT342
Project: MD 108 at MD 650 Intersection Improvements Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: Maryland State Highway Administration
Preparer's Name: Melissa Hess and Stacey Streett Date Prepared: 10/31/2006

Documentation is presented in: _____

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: _____ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes

Site visit by MHT Staff yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

17801 New Hampshire Avenue is located within the crossroads community of Ashton in western Montgomery County, approximately ten miles north of Washington, D.C. Ashton is one of several villages within the roughly one hundred-square miles of the greater neighborhood of Sandy Spring. Ashton, along with other crossroads communities such as, Brookeville, Brighton, Brinklow, Ednor, Norbeck, and Olney, developed as small commercial and residential centers that served the surrounding rural region. These communities had ties to the Quaker village of Sandy Spring, which offered community institutions such as banks, an insurance company, a meetinghouse, and various clubs and social groups. Located less than a mile away, Ashton had a particularly strong affiliation with Sandy Spring.

In 1860, Charles Porter and Caleb Stabler opened a general store on the southwest corner of the intersection of present-day New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) and Olney-Sandy Spring Road (MD 108). The store was the nucleus of what would become Ashton. Other important services in the village included the shops of a wheelwright, a blacksmith, a tinsmith, a carriage maker, and a cobbler, and scales for weighing produce and livestock. The crossroads may also have been the site of a slave market. In its early years, Ashton was known as Porter's Corner. In 1889, Ashton became the village's official name with the establishment of a post office, which was located in the general store. The name is said to be a derivative of the names of two nearby country estates,

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Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments:

Don Paulino
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

11/16/06
Date

Blunt
Reviewer, National Register Program

11/20/06
Date

200603747

Ashland and Clifton.

From the 1880s to the 1920s, more homes were built in Ashton, beginning with the construction of several Victorian style homes, such as 17801 New Hampshire Avenue, and later with the addition of several bungalows. Ashton remained a rural crossroads until the second half of the twentieth century, when the intensifying suburban growth of Montgomery County altered the village character of Ashton. New housing developments were constructed in the Ashton vicinity and several historic buildings within the town's core were demolished. In the 1980s, a commercial strip mall was built on the northwest corner of the main intersection, as well as a bank and several gas stations.

17801 New Hampshire Avenue is known locally as "Leacroft." In 1881, Sarah H. Stone purchased the lot and had the house constructed circa 1882. When Stone died in 1905, she left the house to her step-daughter, Annie L. McDowell. In 1907, McDowell sold the house to Lucy Snowden Lea. A photograph from this year shows the house without the northern addition. The brick chimneys shown in the photograph are higher than the existing brick chimneys. The photograph also shows that the house had shutters and two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows, verge board on the gable ends, and that the porch on the south elevation was enclosed with more windows than the present fenestration. In 1908, Lucy Lea married William Moore. In 1921, the *Annals of Sandy Spring* recorded that "Lucy S. Moore has combined her tenant house with her dwelling at Leacroft, so that it accommodates two families." It is unclear from the historical record whether this meant that Moore actually moved an existing structure and combined it with her dwelling, or whether she simply had an addition built onto the property. Regardless, the present additions on the north elevation of the structure have a concrete foundation, which appears to date to the 1920s. Lucy's daughter, Doris Lea, lived at Leacroft until 1958.

In August of 1958, Doris Lea sold the property to Warren L. Derrick. According to Derrick, the interior of the house had never been completed and needed extensive renovations. With the help of his father, Howard L. Derrick, Warren converted the house into four small one-bedroom apartments. His first tenants were four women, who were all Ashton residents seeking smaller places to live, while remaining in their community. The women called themselves "The Girls," and had tea together everyday, played cards, and visited friends. Warren named the apartments "The Warren Apartments."

17801 New Hampshire Avenue is currently unoccupied. The footprint of the two-story, frame building has a complex arrangement of cross gables and shed-roof projections. The main portion of the building is a three-bay-wide by three-bay-deep, I-house with a cross-gable arrangement. The majority of the building is clad in narrow clapboard siding and portions of shed-roof enclosures are clad in aluminum siding. The wide eaves contain brackets. The roof is covered in standing-seam metal, except for the enclosed, shed-roof projections, which are covered in asphalt shingles. Fenestration consists of replacement and original, sash windows. A stone foundation supports the main portion of the building, and brick piers support the porches. The additions on the north elevation have concrete foundations.

The façade (south elevation) is two bays wide on the side-gable (west) ell, and a first-story, hipped-roof porch covered in standing-seam metal extends across this portion of the façade. Classical, square, wood columns support the roof. The main entrance door is located at the east end of the front porch, and a two-light transom tops the entry door. A two-story, one-bay-wide, front-gable projection is adjacent to the east side of the porch. The front gable projects one bay south of the side-gable ell. The windows on the façade are one-over-one, double-hung replacement windows. The front gable is lit by an intact, six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash attic window. The first story of the front-gable projection contains a modern, shed-roof porch enclosure that contains rows of large, one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl windows. The west elevation contains a total of three bays, including the northernmost bay, which is a one-bay-wide by one-bay-deep, shed-roof porch enclosure projecting from the north elevation. The fenestration is the same as that found on the façade, but also includes a full-story, three-sided, bay-window projection on the southern end of the west elevation. One-over-one, double-hung replacements are installed in the bay window. The side gable

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Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

contains the original, six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash attic window.

The east elevation is comprised of three bays, containing a variety of sizes of one-over-one, double-hung replacement windows and a pair of casement windows. A three-bay-wide by one-bay-deep, shed-roof porch projects from the center of the east elevation. Half of the enclosure is sided in clapboard and the other half in aluminum siding. The porch entry bay is not enclosed and has an adjoining deck to the north. The northernmost bay on the east elevation is a two-story, shed-roof projection, which extends from the side-gable eaves on the north elevation. An intact attic window is located within the north gable, consistent with the other gables. Fenestration on the north elevation is an asymmetrical arrangement of varying sizes of replacement and casement windows. Two shed-roof, enclosed porches project from the first story. A narrow, side-entry porch bay with a deck landing is located on the east side of the north elevation; a one-bay-wide by two-bay-deep enclosure is located on the west side of the north elevation. A pair of brick chimneys containing chimney pots punctuates the east and west ridgelines.

Evergreen shrubs are planted around the foundation of the house. The lawn west of the house has been recently disturbed from the removal of several trees.

In October 2006, the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) received permission from the current owner of 17801 New Hampshire Avenue to enter the premise and inspect the interior, and received permission to take interior photographs. The interior of the house is currently being dismantled and entire floors have been removed; not all rooms were accessible.

17801 New Hampshire Avenue lacks historic integrity. The property maintains its historic location on the east side of New Hampshire Avenue in the village of Ashton. The property's setting has been altered by the removal of several large trees in the front yard. The property's design has been modified by the modern porch addition and porch enclosures, its alteration from a single-family dwelling to apartments, and the removal of many interior elements. Alteration of the building's historic materials include the removal of original windows and doors, the installation of aluminum siding and modern roofing materials on the additions, and the removal of decorative elements such as the verge board in the gable ends. Examples of late nineteenth-century workmanship are still evident in the wood siding on the main block of the house. The property's feeling as a Folk Victorian residence and its association with the turn-of-the-century residential growth of Ashton are no longer apparent due to a lack of overall integrity.

17801 New Hampshire Avenue is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The property is not eligible under Criterion A. While the property was associated with the late nineteenth century residential growth of Ashton, this trend does not constitute a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Furthermore, this association is no longer apparent due to the property's lack of historic integrity. The property is not eligible under Criterion B. The activities of the former owners of the property are not demonstrably important within a local, state, or national context. The property is not eligible under Criterion C, as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. The cross-gable superimposed on the I-house form is a common architectural form found throughout the vicinity and lacks architectural significance. The property is not an element of a larger significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction, such as an historic district. On January 2, 2002, the Maryland Historical Trust determined that the Ashton Survey District (M:28-7), of which 17801 New Hampshire Avenue is a part, was not eligible for the NRHP. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

References

"Ashton." Sandy Spring Museum. On-line; accessed on Oct. 31, 2006; available from <http://sandyspringmuseum.com>.

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Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

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Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

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Brigham, David L. "Ashton: From Unpaved Crossroads to 'Downtown'." Legacy: the Sandy Spring Museum Newsletter. Vol. 19, no. 1 (winter 1999): 1-3.

Crawford, Catherine. Ashton, Maryland. Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form. Annapolis, MD: Maryland Historical Trust, 1984.

Derrick, Warren L. "Leacroft - Warren Apartments." unknown date, vertical file "Leacroft." Sandy Spring Museum. Sandy Spring, Maryland.

P.A.C. Spero & Company. Ashton, Maryland, M:28-7. Maryland Historical Trust Addendum Sheet. Crownsville, MD: Maryland Historical Trust, 1998.

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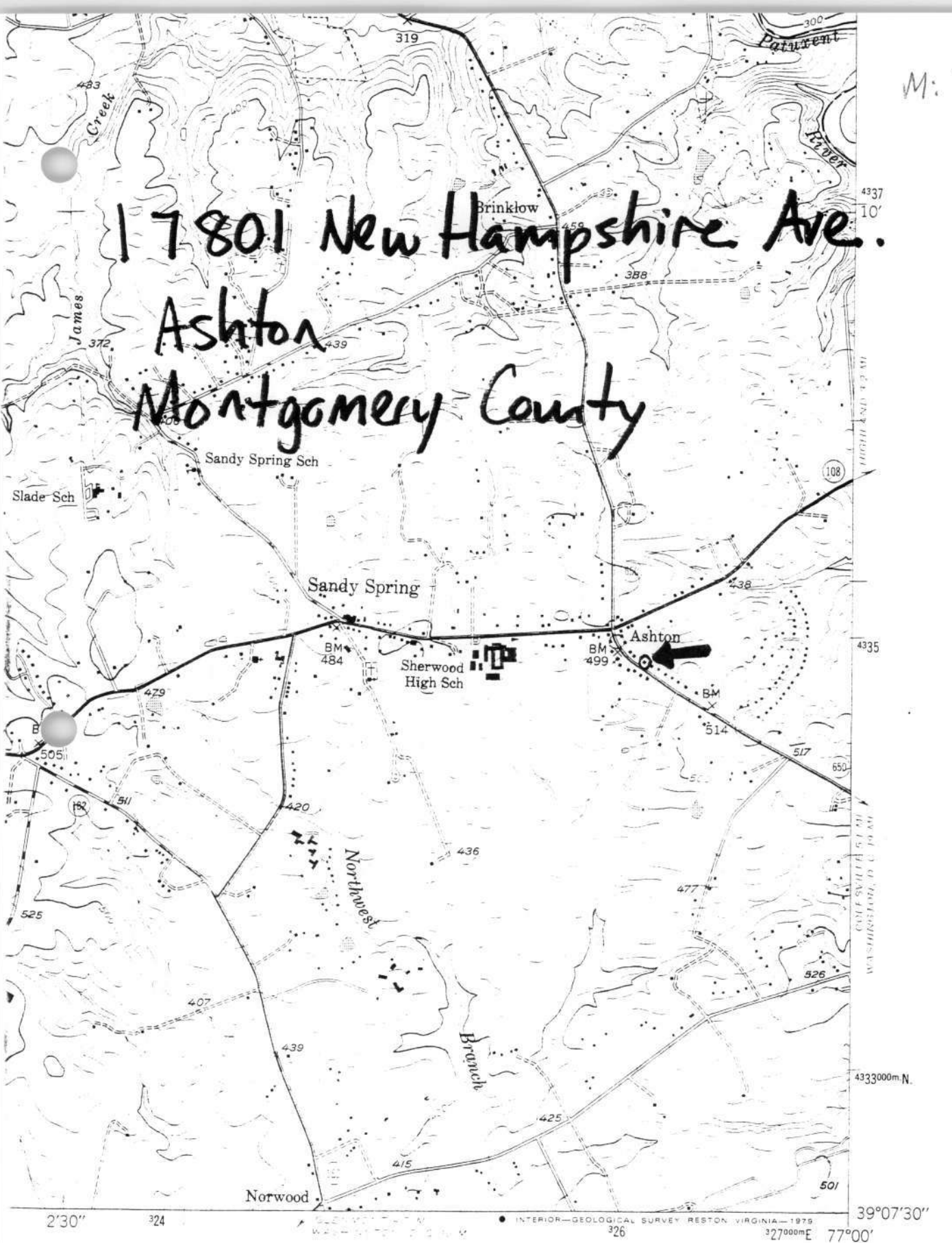


17801 New Hampshire Avenue
Tax Map JT342, Parcel 509
Ashton
Montgomery County



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17801 New Hampshire Ave.
Ashton
Montgomery County



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

HARD-SURFACE ALL WEATHER ROADS		DRY WEATHER ROADS	
Heavy-duty	=====	Improved dirt	=====
Medium-duty	-----	Unimproved dirt	=====
Loose-surface, graded, or narrow hard-surface			
U. S. Route		State Route	

SANDY SPRING, MD.

(BELTSVILLE)
5662 III SW



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17801 New Hampshire Avenue
Montgomery County

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West Elevation, View East
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17801 New Hampshire Avenue

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West Elevation, Second Story Detail

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25 Sept 06

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West Elevation, Polygonal Box

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West Elevation, Addition

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Front Porch, View West

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Front Door, South Elevation, View North

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South and East Elevations, View Northwest

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East Elevation, View West

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North Elevation, View Southwest

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Addition on North Elevation

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Interior, Room at SW corner of House, View West

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Interior, Room at SW corner of House, Fireplace, View NE

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Interior, Room in Addition on North Elevation

View Northeast

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Interior, Bathroom & Hall, View South

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Interior, Room at Southeast corner, View North

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Interior, Room at SE corner, View SE

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17801 New Hampshire Avenue

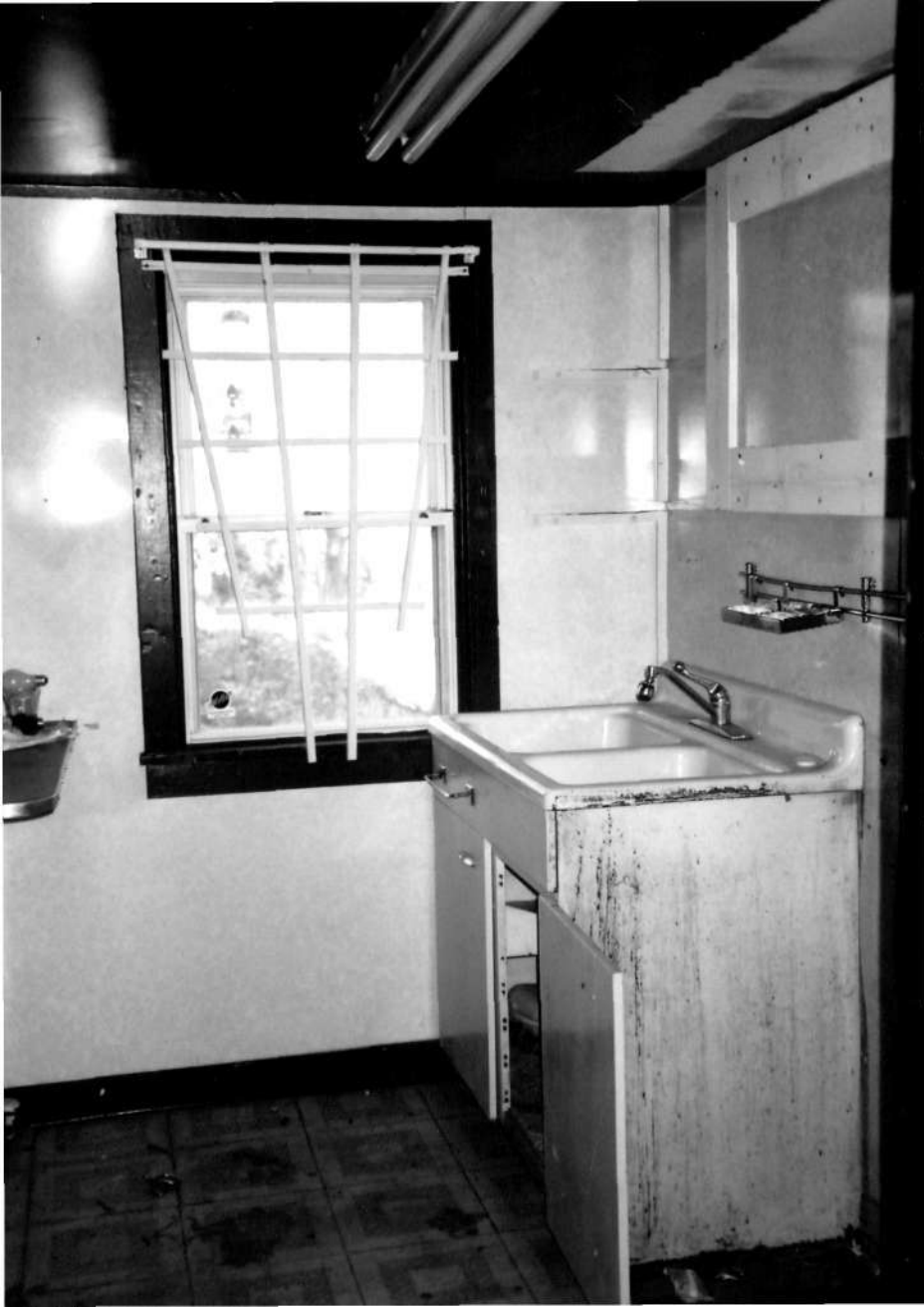
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Interior, First Floor Bedroom, View North
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Interior, Apartment Kitchen

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Interior, Main Staircase, Banister Removed

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17801 New Hampshire Avenue

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Interior, View from First Floor to Second Floor

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MD SHPO

Interior, Second Floor Hallway, View South

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